

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 402

By Dixon

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Thomas Jefferson Echols, Sr.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Mr. Thomas Jefferson Echols, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas Echols was a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee who was very dedicated to his profession, his community and his family; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Echols was an outstanding public servant who dedicated his time and energy to many noteworthy endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Thomas J. Echols, Sr. was born January 8, 1910 to the late Isiah and Effie Taylor Echols in Coldwater, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Echols was a truck driver for the Thomas Steele Company, from which he retired after many years of dedicated and outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Echols was an active and devout member of the Pilgrim Rest Missionary Church, where he served as a Deacon, Trustee, former member of the Senior Choir, and secretary of his Sunday School class; and

WHEREAS, he had also served the church as Treasurer and Secretary and as the Secretary of his Bible class; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jefferson Echols, Sr. was the proud parent of seven children; and

WHEREAS, mourning his loss, yet rejoicing in his purposeful life is his wife, Naomi White Echols; his four sons, J.D. Echols, Thomas Echols, Jr., Charles Echols and Edwards Echols; his two daughters, Betty E. Lauderdale and Evelyn E. Davis; one brother, Jesse T. Echols; two sisters, Laura Clanton and Fair Ella Swauncy; nineteen grandchildren, twenty-five great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. He also leaves behind a very dear friend, Hortense Mayweathers; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends; and

WHEREAS, he is preceded in death by his son, John P. Echols; and

WHEREAS, the legacy Thomas Echols leaves behind will be remembered and treasured by friends and associates for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor the memory of Thomas Jefferson Echols, Sr., remembering with admiration his exemplary character and his many selfless contributions to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Thomas Jefferson Echols, Sr.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.